



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

June 22, 2010

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To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair  
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Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

## **SECOND STATUS REPORT ON MARCH 23, 2010, BOARD MOTION -- INVESTIGATING CHILD ABUSE IN COUNTY-CONTRACTED FOSTER CARE FACILITIES**

On March 23, 2010, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, your Board directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller (Auditor), the Director of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Acting Chief Probation Officer (Probation), to report back in 30 days and quarterly thereafter on: (1) the development of a plan, within existing resources, for a strength-based, efficient and effective process to both eliminate redundancy within the function of auditing/monitoring State-licensed, County-contracted foster care facilities; and, (2) add child welfare investigative expertise back into the process of analyzing a facility's appropriateness, as a whole, when a foster care provider is alleged to have endangered a County-supervised child.

This is our second status report on our efforts to develop a plan to strengthen the County's oversight of foster care providers with County placements. On April 29, 2010, we issued our initial status report on our efforts to address your Board's directive. Since that report, the CEO, Auditor, DCFS, and Probation have reviewed the monitoring information provided by the workgroup members. In addition, DCFS discussed a strategy to restore centralized investigations of allegations received on out-of-home care providers, which include relatives, group homes, Foster Family Agencies, and State-licensed facilities. This includes the relocation of existing Emergency Response (ER) staff to fully investigate the circumstances of all new Child Protection Hotline referrals received on children in out-of-home care.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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The workgroup members have requested additional information on DCFS oversight of relative foster homes and State-licensed homes. This data, combined with the plan to potentially centralize the ER investigations system, will allow the workgroup to assess all out-of-home care monitoring efforts and to make appropriate program recommendations for your Board's consideration.

We will report back to your Board with our recommended plan in our next quarterly report on October 1, 2010.

Please let me know if you have any questions or your staff may contact Kathy House, Acting Deputy CEO, at (213) 974-4530, or via email at [khhouse@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:khhouse@ceo.lacounty.gov).

WTF:BC:KH  
DS:BM:cvb

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
Auditor-Controller  
Children and Family Services  
Probation